

Basic Internet



An introduction to the World Wide Web

Location: Central Library, Technology Room
Visit Schenectady County Public Library at <http://www/scpl.org>

Internet Basics

History of the World Wide Web: The World Wide Web (WWW or “the Web”) is a component of the Internet. It was developed in 1990 by CERN, the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, so that visiting scientists could easily access, read and add to documents stored on their computers. In the 1950s and early 1960s, prior to the widespread inter-networking that led to the Internet, most communication networks were limited in that they only allowed communications between the stations on the network. Some networks had gateways or bridges between them, but these bridges were often limited or built specifically for a single use. One prevalent computer networking method was based on the central mainframe method, simply allowing its terminals to be connected via long leased lines. This method was used in the 1950s by Project RAND to support researchers such as Herbert Simon, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, when collaborating across the continent with researchers in Sullivan, Illinois, on automated theorem proving and artificial intelligence.

Getting to the Internet: Browsers



A browser is a software application used to locate and display web pages. The two most popular browsers are Microsoft Internet Explorer and Firefox. Both of these are *graphical browsers*, which means that they can display graphics as well as text. In addition, most modern browsers can present multimedia information, including sound and video, though they require plug-ins for some formats.

The Internet: URLs

Every document on the Web has an address which is called the URL (Uniform Resource Locator). Each URL has several parts: the protocol, the host name and the domain name

The URL to locate GOOGLE is <http://www.google.com>

http:// the first part identifies the document as a Web page. Other parts of the Web have different identifiers such as FTP (File Transfer Protocol) and IP (Internet Protocol)
www document on the World Wide Web. Not all Web sites have this as part of their address.

.google host name

.com domain name that identifies category of the page. Other typical domain names include: • **gov** - Government agencies; • **edu** - Educational institutions; • **org** - Organizations (nonprofit); • **mil** – Military; • **com** - commercial business; • **net** – Network Organizations; • **ca** – Canada; • **th** – Thailand

A URL may have additional components that identify special features of the page such as html (hypertext markup language)

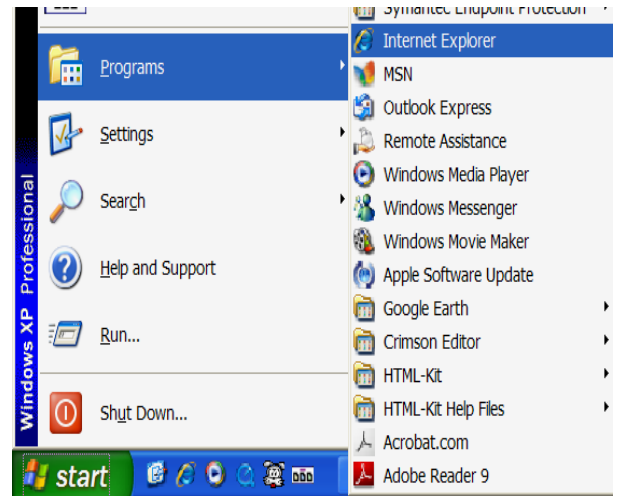
Opening Microsoft Internet Explorer

Start → Programs → Internet Explorer

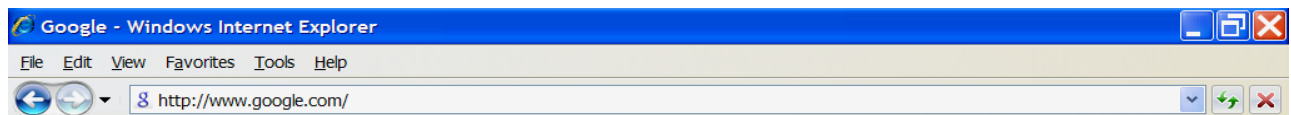
Or double-click on the shortcut icon on the desktop

Search Engines: A program that searches documents for specified keywords and returns a list of the documents where the keywords were found. Although *search engine* is really a general class of programs, the term is often used to specifically describe systems like Google, Alta Vista and Excite that enable users to search for documents on the World Wide Web.

Google	http://www.google.com	Excite	http://www.excite.com
AltaVista	http://www.altavista.com	Lycos	http://lycos.com
Dogpile	http://www.dogpile.com	Ask	http://ask.com
Yahoo!	http://www.yahoo.com	WebCrawler	http://www.webcrawler.com
Bing	http://www.bing.com		



Internet Google Toolbar:



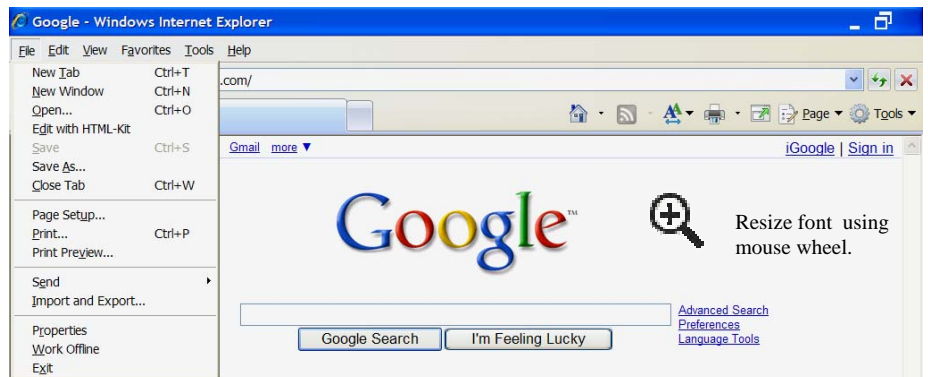
File menu: contains selections such as save, close, and print, and close
Edit menu: contains selections such as undo, redo, cut, copy, paste
View menu: contains selections such as changing the toolbars available, changing size of text on screen, refreshing the current page.

Favorites (or Bookmarks) menu: creates a type of “shortcut” to a favorite website

Tools menu: contains popup blocker, phishing filter, internet options, etc.

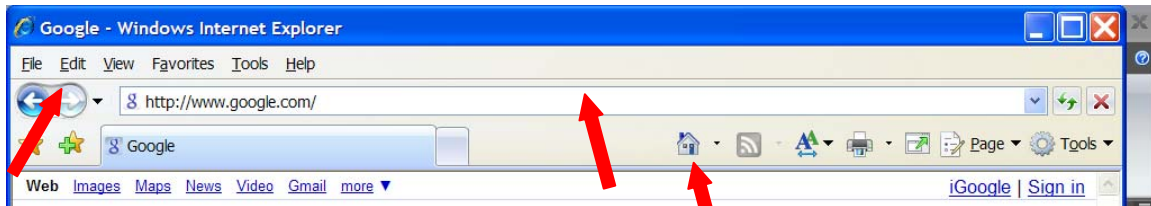
Help menu: contains selections for seeking help with the program

(Notice that for many actions there is a keyboard shortcut using the Control key and a letter key. For example, open file Ctrl-O and close file Ctrl-W)



Getting to Know the Toolbars

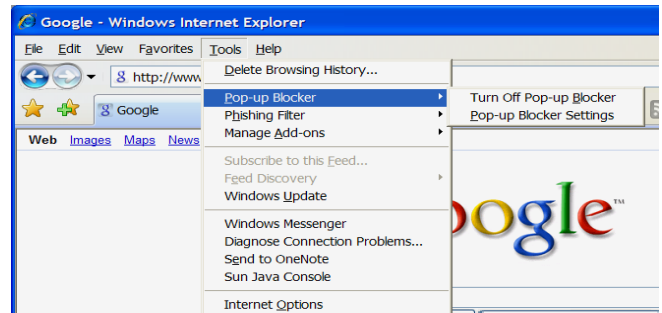
The “Standard Buttons” toolbar: For ease of use, a shortcut toolbar can be added using the View dropdown menu. This toolbar would include such basic functions as navigating back and forth between pages, refreshing and stopping the loading of pag



The Address Bar is the primary entry for URLs

Home shortcut

The Tools dropdown menu connects you to such security features as the pop-up blocker and Phishing Filter



Visiting a Web Page

After you have opened your browser (Internet Explorer, Netscape, etc.), it will load (bring up) the Home Page which may be set as Google or another search engine. Click in the address bar to activate the I-bar which tells the computer you are about to enter a URL (web address).

Navigating a Page from the Web

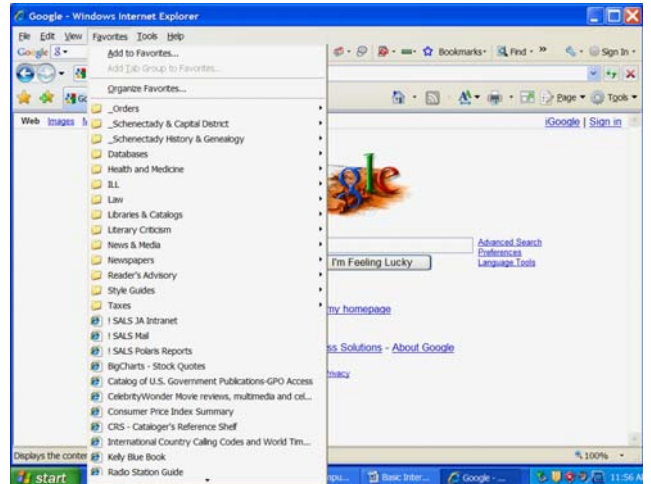
Pages will generally contain “links,” which when clicked, bring you to a different portion of the site, a file to view, or a different site all together. Links will generally be noted by blue text or underlined, or will change colors if the cursor is placed over it.

If a page is larger than the screen, scroll bars appear – usually on the right and/or bottom.

If you want to return to a previously viewed site, click the back OR forward button OR the down arrow at the right end of the address bar. Another option is to click History on the main toolbar to view at least ten previous viewed sites.

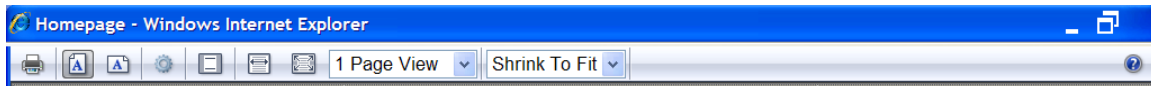
Favorites

In your browsing of the web, you will undoubtedly come across pages that you will wish to save for later viewing. In web browsing, you do not save web pages; you bookmark the site's URL. To bookmark a page, browse to the page you wish to bookmark. Click the "Favorites" menu, and click "Add to Favorites." You can create folders and save similar URL sites in the appropriate folder.




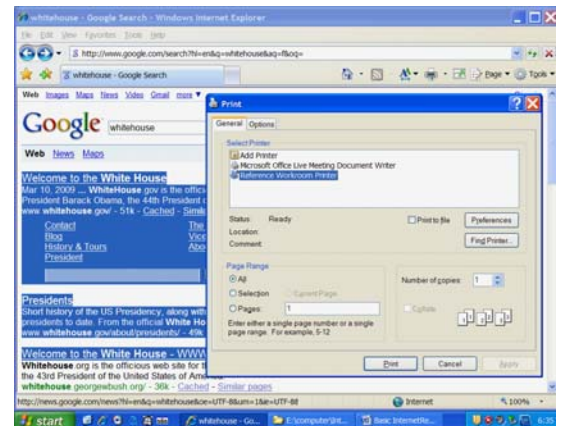
Printing a Page

Click File  Print Preview OR shortcut icon on toolbar.



Print Preview lets you see what the webpage will look like when it is printed. It also tells you the number of printed pages that will be produced.

File  Print You can also highlight a section to be printed or select a range of pages from the whole document.



Minimize, Restore Down, Maximize

You can change the viewing size of the screen by clicking in the upper right hand boxes. If you minimize the screen, to return it to its original size, click the file button on the Bottom of the task bar.



Minimize Maximize



Restore down

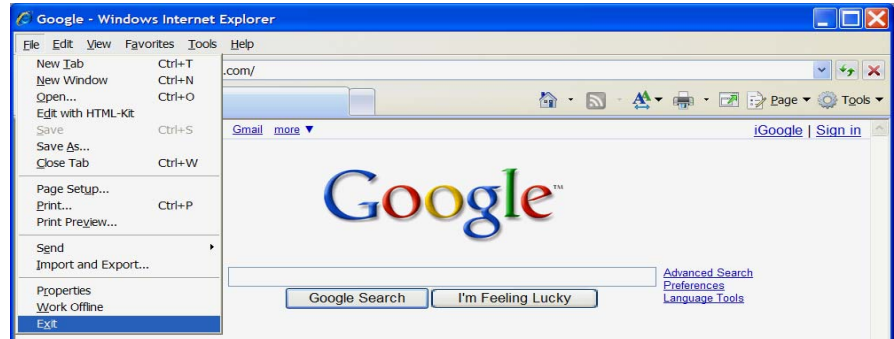
WATCH OUT FOR POP-UPS!!! Pop-ups are a good way for the novice to be flimflammed, scammed, bamboozled, or otherwise “taken to the cleaners”. Exceptions would include notices for free updates to programs ALREADY on your computer, such as Adobe Reader.

Closing the Program

File  Exit

OR

click in the “X” box in the top right of the page or screen.



Now You Try It!!

Exercises for the Internet Novice

1. Open Internet Explorer. Click in the address bar to enter web address (the current address will turn blue) Type: <http://www.scpl.org> Click the Enter key on your keyboard.

Congratulations. You have just successfully launched yourself onto the World Wide Web and connected to the Schenectady County Public Library webpage.

2. Click in address bar and enter: <http://www.whitehouse.gov> Click the Enter key on your keyboard. Go to Print Preview. How many pages would print from this website? Close Print Preview window. Open any link on the website. Highlight any printable portion of the page. Go to Print Preview and view what you have selected. (Hint – involves a drop down menu)

3. Now, go back to the Library homepage. (Remember the back arrow or drop-down arrow?)

4. Minimize the screen and then bring it back up. Maximize the screen. Restore the screen to original size.

5. Use the scroll bars to find the links on the left of the page. Explore links on webpage. (You should be on the Library page.)

6. Return to the Home page for the browser by clicking on the Home shortcut icon.
7. Explore other search engines listed above (such as Yahoo!, Excite, WebCrawler, etc.)
7. Exit from the browse

Free Online Internet Basic Tutorials

<http://www.learnthenet.com/english/web/000www.htm> The web at a glance with 21 short lessons. Sponsored by Learn the Net (www.learnthenet.com)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/webwise/course> Main page for online tutorials. Sponsored by the BBC – British Broadcasting Company

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/webwise/course/coursemenu.shtml> Learn how to use the internet step-by-step. Also includes Computer Tutor – guide to using a computer

<http://liblearn.osu.edu/tutor> Sponsored by Ohio State University

http://www.learnthat.com/software/learn/1159/Free_Microsoft_Windows_Vista_Tutorial/page/21
About Learnthat.com - Free tutorials and online eLearning. Learnthat.com LLC was founded in 1999 to offer free web based training to users of all levels. Note “_” between words – there are NO blank spaces in a URL

<http://www.netskills.ac.uk/onlinecourses/tonic> TONIC is an easy-to-understand, practical guide to using the Internet produced by Netskills. Use of TONIC is free, but users are required to register